

Message Text

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11

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 SAM-01 ACDA-05 TRSE-00 MC-02 EB-07

COME-00 OMB-01 /093 W

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R 161545Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4014

INFO DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER/ECJ2

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY DOHA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 4930

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL EG

SUBJECT: ARAB MILITARY INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION

REF: USDAO CAIRO 131122Z MAY 75

1. DURING MINWAY BRIEFING MAY 16 FOR ICAF GROUP
VISITING EGYPT, MINISTER OF WAR PRODUCTION GEN AHMED
KAMEL EL BADRY PROVIDED FOLLOWING INFO IN RESPONSE TO
STUDENT OFFICER'S QUESTIONS RE NEWLY ENACTED PLAN TO
ESTABLISH ARAB MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION BASED IN
EGYPT.

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2. GEN BADRY DECLARED THIS WAS NEW ARAB STRATEGY DESIGNED

TO PROVIDE ADVANCED, SOPHISTICATED MILITARY EQUIPMENT FOR COUNTRIES IN ARAB WORLD. ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THIS OBJECTIVE WOULD REQUIRE INPUTS OF TECHNOLOGY AND INVESTMENT FROM OUTSIDE. HE FORESAW NO OBJECTION TO COOPERATION WITH ANY COUNTRY THAT PRODUCES SUCH SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT ON THE BASIS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH THIS ADVANCE INDUSTRIAL BASE, EGYPT NEEDS FINANCING WHICH IT WILL GET FROM OIL-RICH ARAB COUNTRIES. BADRY STATED THAT EGYPT HAS NECESSARY TECHNOLOGICAL AND INDUSTRIAL BASE WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE EXPANDED TO ACCOMMODATE THIS NEW PROJECT.

3. THIS MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION WOULD FOCUS ON PRODUCTION OF AIRCRAFT, MISSILES, AND ADVANCED ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT. ACCORDING TO BADRY, IT WOULD BE LONG-RANGE PROJECT AND WOULD HAVE TO START GRADUALLY. HE STRESSED THAT IT WAS NOT AIMED AGAINST ANYONE, BUT IT WAS IN THE INTEREST OF EGYPT AND ITS ARMED FORCES THAT SUCH AN ORGANIZATION BE DEVELOPED.

4. DEP PRIN MINWAY GEN GAMASSY ADDED THAT THIS PROJECT WOULD BE A SEPARATE PROGRAM - AN ARAB PROGRAM - WHICH WOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH EGYPT'S INTERNAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.
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